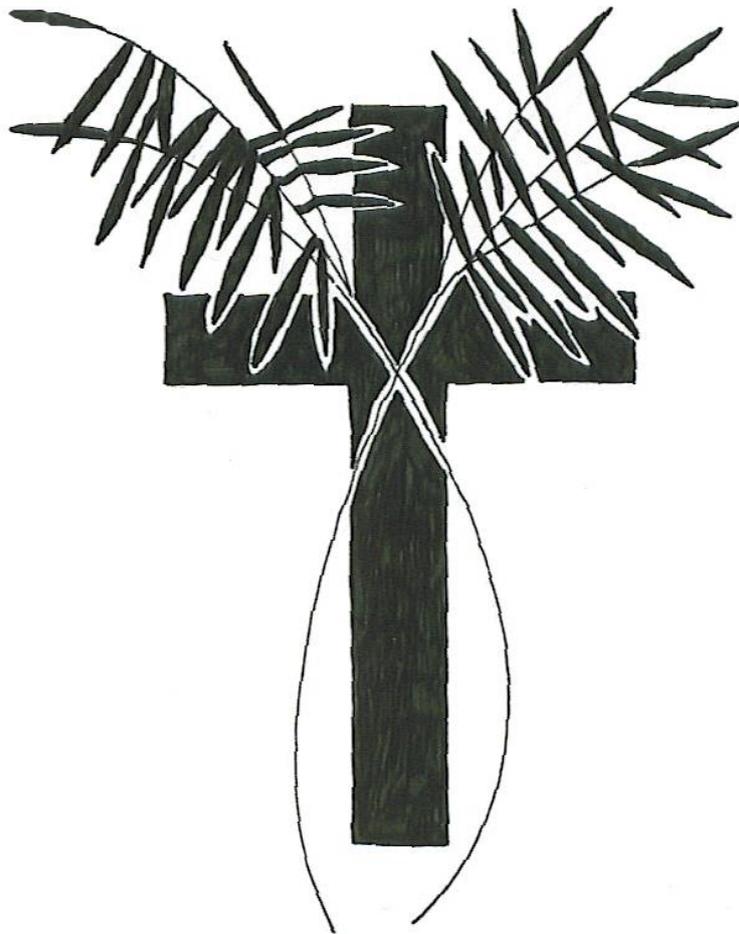


**United Benefice of Berrow with Pendock
Eldersfield, Hollybush and Birtsmorton**



Holy Communion on Palm Sunday

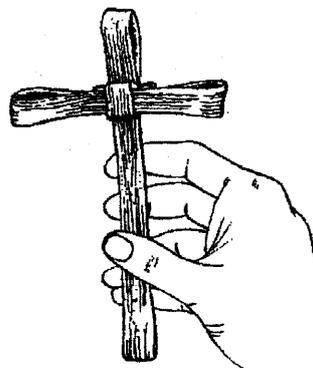
Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday the Church commemorates Christ's entry into Jerusalem to accomplish his saving work by dying and rising again.

The practice of giving palm crosses is a well established one and many people like to keep their palm crosses in a visible place at home. Others use them as a book mark in their bible. Whatever your custom or practice, the palm cross is a powerful reminder of Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and the exuberant greeting he received from the crowd as they strewed palms in his path - the very same crowd that was soon baying for his death.

The Passion Narrative takes us into the heart of Holy Week. Although the services of this week are shaped by the historical commemoration of the events of the last week in Jesus' earthly life, taken together they form an extended celebration of the victory he won over death. If the Palm Cross reminds us of Jesus' triumphant entry, then the Passion Narrative reminds us that the kingly power of Christ is the power of self-giving love alone.

In this service we shall hear of these events. First will come Jesus' entry into Jerusalem - a spontaneous, exciting, dramatic and rather chaotic event and then an account of Jesus' Passion. The two are in stark contrast to each other and are very much an echo of a week that changed the world.



THE WELCOME-with Donkey's Bonny and Clyde

THE FIRST HYMN

You will be given a palm on arrival, as part of the Covid check in process. Unless its pouring with rain we will remain outside and process up to the Church, singing our first hymn and at its conclusion, we remain standing:

Dear friends in Christ, during Lent we have been preparing by works of love and self-sacrifice for the celebration of our Lord's death and resurrection. Today we come together to begin this solemn celebration in union with the Church throughout the world. Christ enters his own city to complete his work as our Saviour, to suffer, to die, and to rise again.

So let us go with him in faith and love, so that, united with him in his sufferings we may share his risen life.

**Lord, direct our thoughts, and teach us to pray.
Lift up our hearts to worship you in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

THE COLLECT

**Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards mankind
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example
of his patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

We hold up the Palms for a Blessing:

Lord, increase the faith of your people and listen to our prayers.
We ask that you will bless these palms
which we hold today to honour Christ our triumphant King.
May we honour you every day by living always in him,
for he is Lord for ever and ever.
Amen.

We move inside the church, socially distanced.

THE CONFESSION

On Palm Sunday the crowds worshipped Jesus;
on Good Friday they shouted for his death.

God our Father, we come to you in sorrow for our sins.

For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For failing you by what we do, and think and say;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in the world about us;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

For living as if we were ashamed to belong to your Son;
Father, forgive us:
save us and help us.

Almighty God, who is both power and love,
forgive you and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by His Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen

HYMN

THE PASSION NARRATIVE based on the readings - Open the Book Team

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,
who made all things?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who redeemed the world?

We believe and trust in him.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives life to the people of God?

We believe and trust in him.

This is the faith of the Church.

This is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

Amen.

We sit or kneel for

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Heavenly Father, as Christ entered Jerusalem may he enter our lives that he may rule in our hearts.

We pray for the church,
that it may be ready to lift the heavy loads of those in need,
just as Simon of Cyrene was ready to carry the cross for your Son.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray that those who have lost their faith
or stopped praying may be brought back to you and your love.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for our loved ones,
the members of our families, our friends
and especially those from whom we are separated by distance.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those in pain,
the lost, the lonely, the broken-hearted, the crushed in spirit.
We ask that they may be strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who already share Christ's suffering,
the sick, the ailing and the dying,
that they may know the power of His resurrection.
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who have died,
that they may be raised to eternal life
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for a few moments in the silence of our hearts...

**Gentle, powerful God,
we stand at the threshold of this Holy Week with full hearts and empty hands.
Take away our sorrow and fill us with joy
at the knowledge of your triumph over sin and death.
Fill us with hope so that we may reach out to those you love.
We ask these prayers through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Christ is our peace.
He has reconciled us to God In one body by the cross.
We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you

HYMN

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Wise and gracious God, you spread a table before us; nourish your people with the word of life and the bread of heaven.
Amen

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Let us pray

It is indeed right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
For as the time of his passion and resurrection draws near
the whole world is called to acknowledge his hidden majesty.
The power of the life-giving cross reveals the judgement that has come upon the world
and the triumph of Christ crucified.

He is the victim who dies no more,
the Lamb once slain, who lives for ever,
our advocate in heaven to plead our cause,
exalting us there to join with angels and archangels,
for ever praising you and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Jesus Christ is Lord:
**Lord, by your cross and resurrection
you have set us free.
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with [N and] all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

**Our Father,
which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done ;
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.**

Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore let us keep the feast

Bread is received at the altar, in both your hands and taken back to your seat, where you can then consume. If you wish to receive a blessing, please indicate this keeping your hands by your sides.

THE PRAYERS AFTER COMMUNION

The following prayers are said:

**Lord Jesus Christ,
you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.
Amen**

**We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this physical and spiritual
sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly
banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.**

THE FINAL HYMN

THE BLESSING

Christ crucified draw you to himself,
to find in him a sure ground for faith,
a firm support for hope,
and the assurance of sins forgiven;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.